

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 02811 201653Z

46

ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 2811

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO, DPC

SUBJECT: DPC RESTRICTED SESSION-MEETING WITH SYG

REF: STATE 116749

ACTING ON INSTRUCTIONS CONTAINED REFTEL, AMBASSADOR BRUCE CALLED
ON SYG LUNS MAY 20 TO DISCUSS DPC RESTRICTED SESSION. MEETING RE-
PORTED SEPTEL. AMBASSADOR BRUCE'S TALKING POINTS, A COPY
OF WHICH WAS PROVIDED TO SYG, FOLLOW:

BEGIN TEXT

IT NOW APPEARS THAT BECAUSE OF SCHEDULING CONFLICTS, IT WILL
BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR SECRETARY SCHLESINGER TO MEET WITH YOU AT ANY
LENGTH PRIOR TO THE OPENING OF THE DPC MINISTERIAL MEETING.

--WE DO HOPE THAT IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR SECRETARY
SCHLESINGER TO VISIT YOU FOR A BRIEF "OFFICE CALL" JUST PRIOR TO
THE BEGINNING OF THE FIRST SESSION, AND WE WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH
YOUR OFFICE STAFF CONCERNING THIS VISIT.

--IN THE ABSENCE OF A MORE LENGTHY VISIT, SECRETARY
SCHLESINGER HAS ASKED ME TO DISCUSS WITH YOU OUR VIEWS ON SEVERAL
ITEMS THAT WILL ARISE DURING THE RESTRICTED SESSION.

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NATO 02811 201653Z

OUR FIRST POINT OF CONCERN IS IMINISTERIAL CONSIDERATION OF THE
REPORT ON THE STRATEGIC SITUATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN.

--WE UNDERSTAND THAT YOU PLAN TO BRING THIS SUBJECT UP.

--THE REPORT MIGHT PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR SOME COUNTRIES,
PARTICULARLY TURKEY, TO RAISE ISSUES WHICH MIGHT BE AWKWARD FOR THE
UNITED STATES.

--SECRETARY SCHLESINGER WILL BE PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE
IN A DISCUSSION OF THE COMPLEX ISSUES WHICH ARE INHERENT IN THE
SUBJECT, BUT IT IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY CLEAR TO US THAT PROBLEMS
IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SHOULD ALSO BE OF GREAT CONCERN TO OUR EUROPEAN
ALLIES.

-- WE WISH, OF COURSE, TO ENCOURAGE OUR EUROPEAN ALLIES
TO TAKE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN SEEKING RESOLUTION OF THESE PROBLEMS.

--WE HOPE, THEREFORE, THAT YOU WILL SEE FIT TO STIMULATE
A BROAD-RANGING DISCUSSION OF THIS ISSUE AMONG THE EUROPEAN MINISTERS
OF DEFENSE.

SECRETARY SCHLESINGER PLANS TO DISCUSS THE U.S. DEFENSE BUDGET
AND WHAT IT MEANS TO NATO. HE WILL RESPOND TO WELL-KNOWN EUROPEAN
INTEREST IN OUR ANNUAL BUDGET DEBATE BY "TELLING IT AS IT IS,"
EXPLAINING WHAT WE ARE TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH, AND NOTING HOW THE BUDGET
IS FARING THUS FAR IN THE CONGRESS. WE HOPE THAT YOU, THEN, CAN
HELP TO STIMULATE A FRANK DISCUSSION AMONG MINISTERS CONCERNING THEIR
OWN DEFENSE BUDGETS AND RELATED EFFORTS TO MAINTAIN A LONG-TERM,
CREDIBLE, NATO DEFENSE.

--WE HOPE THAT SUCH A DISCUSSION OF BUDGETS WOULD NOT TURN
INTO A "HAND-WRINGER SESSION" ON THE PRESENT ECONOMIC SITUATION,
BUT WOULD LEAD TO A CONSTRUCTIVE ASSESSMENT OF WHAT ALL THE ALLIES
ARE DOING TO TRY TO MATCH WARSAW PACT RESOURCE INCREASES.

--IN SIMILAR VENUE, WE FEEL THAT THE NATO REPORT ON
ECONOMIC TRENDS MAY BE USEFUL AS A COMPLEMENT TO DISCUSSION.
SECRETARY SCHLESINGER MAY FIND AN OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON THE

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PAGE 03 NATO 02811 201653Z

RELATIVE INDUSTRIAL CAPACITIES OF THE EAST AND WEST AS A FACTOR
IN THE STRATEGIC BALANCE.
SECRETARY SCHLESINGER WILL BRIEFLY REVIEW PROGRESS ON THE
THREE ASPECTS OF THE NUNN AMENDMENT: CONVERSION OF SUPPORT TO
COMBAT FORCES, STANDARDIZATION AND THE THEATER NUCLEAR FORCE
POSTURE IN EUROPE.

FINALLY, SECRETARY SCHLESINGER WILL DISCUSS THE SPANISH/
EUROPEAN DEFENSE LINKAGE. IN MY LETTER TO YOU OF THIS MORNING, I
POINTED OUT OUR SUPPORT FOR SPAIN'S INTEREST IN SECURING SOME FORM
OF ALLIANCE RECOGNITION OF SPAIN'S CONTRIBUTION TO WESTERN DEFENSE,
IN THE CONTEXT OF BILATERAL US-SPAIN NEGOTIATIONS.

-- SECRETARY SCHLESINGER WILL PROBABLY EXPAND ON THIS THEME
TO POINT OUT THE PRESENT AND POTENTIAL SPANISH CONTRIBUTIONS TO

WESTERN DEFENSE.

-- WE HOPE THAT YOU COULD HELP SECRETARY SCHLESINGER TO EXPLORE CAUTIOUSLY, AMONG HIS COLLEAGUES, THE IDEA OF AN APPROPRIATE RELATIONSHIP FOR SPAIN WITH THE ALLIANCE, PERHAPS FOCUSING INITIALLY ON STEPS TOWARD MILITARY COOPERATION, AND AIMING TOWARDS SOME FORM OF ALLIED RECOGNITION OF THE POTENTIAL SPANISH CONTRIBUTION.

WE WOULD, OF COURSE, APPRECIATE YOUR VIEWS ON HOW WE OURSELVES COULD BEST TREAT THE SUBJECTS I HAVE RAISED TO MAKE THE RESTRICTED SESSION AS PRODUCTIVE AS POSSIBLE.

END TEXT.

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